2009 Voting Systems Certification Review Board Biographies

Debbie Cook Director, Washington Assistive Technology Alliance

Debbie Cook is the Director of the Washington Assistive Technology Act Program and is the consultant on technology accessibility issues and independent living for the Department of services for the Blind.

Ms. Cook is nationally recognized for her expertise and leadership regarding a wide range of IT, policy development and service delivery issues including: accessible design of hardware, software and web-based technologies; telecommunications product design and service delivery; laws, regulations and best practices regarding access to IT and accommodation of people with disabilities in education and employment; and standards for provision of assistive technology services. Ms. Cook is a periodic contributor to AccessWorld and has conducted several research projects for the Foundation, has been a consultant to the National council on Disability regarding technology policy issues, and is past-Chair of the Information Access Committee for the American council of the blind. Ms. Cook served on the advisory committee to the federal Access Board charged with drafting regulations for Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 as amended and served on the advisory committee charged with drafting recommendations to refresh the regulations for Section 508 and for Section 255 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996.

Kim Wyman County Auditor, Thurston County (ES&S)

Kim Wyman has served as Thurston County Auditor since January 2001. Kim is a graduate of California State University, Long Beach and holds a Master's Degree in Public Administration from Troy State University in Alabama. Kim is a Certified Elections/Registration Administrator (CERA) through Auburn University and the Election Center as well as a Washington State Certified Election Administrator through the Office of the Secretary of State. During Kim's tenure, the Thurston County Auditor's Office has won four National Achievement Awards for significant innovations in county government as well as two Government Finance Officers Association Certificates of Achievement for excellence in financial reporting. Kim served as a member of a national advisory panel for the Federal Election Commission in 2001. She traveled to Russia as a member of an international election observation team in 1997.

Patrick Pow Director, Information Technology, University of Washington Tacoma

Patrick is responsible for administrative and academic computing, telecommunications, distance education technologies and student information system at University of Washington, Tacoma. He has managed database and web application projects; evaluated, designed and installed various campus networks, network infrastructure and production facilities; and supervised academic, administrative and technical staff in higher education for the past two decades. Patrick has a B.A. from the University or Washington, an M.Ed in Instructional Technology from the University of British Columbia, and has completed all graduate course works for a Doctoral Candidate in Adult and Distance Learning Technologies.

Matthew Barreto Professor of Political Science, University of Washington Matt A. Barreto is an assistant professor in political science at the University of Washington, Seattle and a founding member of the Washington Institute for the Study of Ethnicity, Race and Sexuality (WISER). He received his Ph.D. in political science from the University of California, Irvine in 2005. His research examines the political participation of racial and ethnic minorities in the United States and his work has been published in the American Political Science Review, Political Research Quarterly, Social Science Quarterly, Urban Affairs Review, and other peer reviewed journals. Matt specializes in Latino and immigrant voting behavior, and teaches courses on Racial and Ethnic Politics, Latino Politics, Voting and Elections, and American Politics at UW. Part of his research agenda also includes public opinion and election surveys, including exit polling methodology. Matt is also an affiliated research scholar with the Tomas Rivera Policy Institute (www.trpi.org) since 1999 and with the Center for the Study of Los Angeles (www.lmu.edu/csla) since 2002. In 2004, he was a co-author of the TRPI/Washington Post National Survey of Latino voters and in 2005, he was co-principal investigator of the CSLA Los Angeles Mayoral exit poll.

Michael Rooney Elections Supervisor, Pierce County Elections (Sequoia)

Mike is responsible for all aspects of conducting federal, state and local elections, as well as voter registration, for the second largest county in Washington State, with a population in excess of 805,000 and over 409,000 registered voters. Mike is a graduate of Washington State University, is a Certified Elections/Registration Administrator (CERA) through Auburn University and The Election Center and is a certified Washington State Election Administrator. He has worked in elections since 1988.